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DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY



WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

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SCW-63/DR

Mr. William J. Casey Director of Central Intelligence Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Casey:

(S/SPOKE/NF/SI)	The following	ng items	of	intelligence	are	provided	for	your
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In a move that may have significant implications for NATO and West German military defense and strategy, Bonn has transferred wartime control of six Home Defense Brigades (HDB) to NATO for both forward defense and reserve force missions. Under the NATO aegis, these units will acquire a greater combat capability when they receive more modern equipment, training and direct attention from command authorities. In turn, the brigades should improve unit morale and esprit de corps. One problem posed by these transfers is the depletion of rear-area forces which are tasked to defend against a Soviet breakthrough of the forward defense line. Thus, it will be necessary either to add troops to the territorial army or to make provisions to increase their combat effectiveness. Otherwise, the remaining rear-area security units will be hard pressed to fulfill their wartime mission program. In any event, enhancing the credibility of NATO's military deterrence -- the advantage of the transfers -- is seen as more than compensating for the short term military problems they will cause.

JAMES A. WILLIAMS

Lieutenant General, U.S. Army

Director